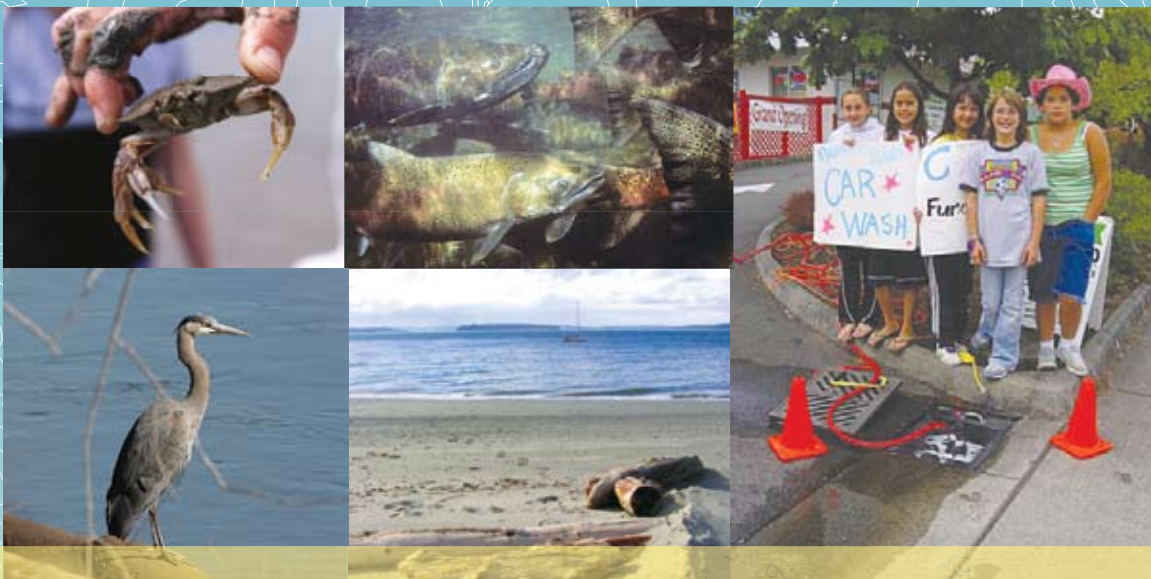




King County

Sound Tips

10 Steps to Help Save The Sound



www.kingcounty.gov/pugetsound

King County is working to safeguard Puget Sound and the environment, protect human health and enrich the region's quality of life. The county is a member of the Puget Sound Partnership (www.pugetsoundpartnership.org), which has developed an action agenda to protect and restore the Sound ecosystem.

Check out the Sound Tips inside to see how you can make a difference.

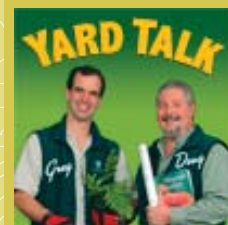
10 Things You Can Do To Protect Puget Sound



Practice natural yard care

By working with, rather than against, nature in your yard, you can have a great looking landscape that's easier to care for, and healthier for families, pets, wildlife and our great Puget Sound. Visit King County's Yard Talk Web site to learn more about Yard Talk, an award-winning natural gardening television program that airs on King County Television (KCTV).

www.kingcounty.gov/yardtalk



Careful what you flush

Trash, hair and grease in the sewer pipes create overflows which can harm human health and the Puget Sound. Wastewater treatment plants use natural processes to turn dirty water into clean water and fertilizer before it is returned to the environment.

Not all chemicals found in medicines, cleaners and personal products can be removed during treatment. Choose natural, simple, biodegradable products and help keep chemicals out of our environment. Nothing disappears – drains and toilets are the first step to a clean Puget Sound.

www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd/Education/ThingsYouCanDo.aspx



Maintain your septic system

Not on a public sewer system? That means the water used to clean your clothes, teeth and dishes is going into an on site septic system and will eventually enter a drain field on your property and possibly leach into the Sound.

www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd.aspx



Save water for fish

Conserving water ensures that necessary supplies are available year round to meet the needs of the people, farms, fish and businesses of King County. Conserving water conserves energy – less water used means less energy needed to pipe, pump, and clean water.

www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wastewater/WaterConservation.aspx



Put household hazardous waste in its place

Protect people, fish and our Puget Sound. Keep harmful chemicals out of waterways and groundwater.

www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house/disposal



Practice good vehicle maintenance

Oil, grease and metals from vehicles pollute air and water. Get vehicle emissions checked and repaired, recycle used motor oil, and fix oil leaks in your car. If you decide to wash your car, remember that any soap, even biodegradable, kills fish. Wash your car on the lawn and let Mother Nature clean it. Or take it to a car washing facility where the soap and toxins are removed from the car wash water and then piped to a treatment facility. Better yet, drive less, ride your bike or take a bus!

www.kingcounty.gov/environment/stewardship/carwash-kit



Become an EcoConsumer

King County's EcoConsumer program offers a wide range of tips and resources to help balance consuming and conserving. For example, use greener household cleaning products such as non-chlorine cleanser, or homemade window cleaner with vinegar or lemon juice.

www.KCecoconsumer.com



Restore habitat

Help restore stream and wetland buffer habitats for fish and wildlife and improve water quality. Volunteer opportunities abound.

www.kingcounty.gov/environment/stewardship/volunteer.aspx



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Every day, King County residents and businesses run across unwanted items that make them wonder: "What do I do with?" King County's Solid Waste Division offers a Web site for businesses and residents that lists recycling, reuse, and proper disposal options for 98 categories of items, from propane tanks to paint to packing peanuts.

www.kingcounty.gov/WhatDoIDoWith



Recycle Food. It's Easy to Do

More than 30 percent of the residential waste that ends up in King County's landfill is food scraps and food soiled paper. Food scrap recycling is available to over 90 percent of single family households that subscribe to yard waste recycling. Meat, fish, dairy, bones, paper napkins and towels and even greasy pizza boxes can go into the curbside yard waste cart for composting into a nutrient-rich soil amendment. Good for gardens; good for waste reduction and good for Puget Sound's soil.

www.recyclefood.com

This information is available in alternative formats.
Call 206-296-6500 or 711 (TTY Relay).

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